

28. (Amended) The method of claim 27, further comprising coupling [a] the well that bounds the transistor to the second source/drain of the transistor.

34. (Amended) A method of reducing a voltage, comprising:

applying the voltage to a first source/drain and a gate of a transistor;

reducing the voltage by a threshold voltage of the transistor; and

providing the voltage reduced by [a] the threshold voltage of the transistor at a second source/drain of the transistor, wherein a semiconductor region containing the first and second source/drains is coupled to the second source/drain of the transistor.

38. (Amended) A method of reducing voltage from an external voltage supply in an integrated circuit, comprising:

coupling a transistor of the integrated circuit between the external supply voltage and an internal circuit of the integrated circuit;

[to reduce] reducing the external supply voltage applied to the internal circuit by a threshold voltage of the transistor;

isolating the transistor from a substrate region of the integrated circuit by a well formed in the substrate region; and

coupling the well to the internal circuit.

41. (Amended) A method of reducing voltage, comprising:

applying the voltage to a first transistor, wherein a second transistor is coupled to the first transistor;

reducing the voltage; and

7 → providing [a] the reduced voltage an output of the second transistor, wherein a well, bounding the first transistor and the second transistor, is coupled to the output [to the output].

45. (Amended) A method of reducing voltage, comprising:
applying the voltage to a first transistor, wherein the first transistor is coupled to a second transistor;

reducing the voltage; and

providing [a] the reduced voltage at an output of the second transistor, wherein a first well, bounding the first transistor, is coupled to the second transistor and a second well, bounding the second transistor, is coupled to the output.

49. (Amended) A method of reducing a voltage, comprising:

applying the voltage to a first source/drain and a gate of a first transistor, wherein a second source/drain of the first transistor is integrally formed with a first source/drain of a second transistor to form a common source/drain and the common source/drain is coupled to a gate of the second transistor;

reducing the voltage; and

providing [a] the reduced voltage at a second source/drain of the second transistor, wherein the voltage is reduced by a threshold voltage of both the first transistor and the second transistor.

52. (Amended) A method of reducing voltage, comprising:

applying the voltage to a first source/drain and a gate of a first transistor, wherein the a second source/drain of the first transistor is coupled to a first source/drain and a gate of a second transistor;

reducing the voltage; and

providing [a] the reduced voltage at a second source/drain of the second transistor, wherein the voltage is reduced by a threshold voltage of both the first transistor and the second transistor.

61. (Amended) A method of regulating a voltage, comprising:
applying the voltage to a first source/drain of a transistor;
reducing the voltage; and
providing [a] the reduced voltage at a second source/drain of the transistor in response to a gate signal applied to a gate of the transistor to activate the transistor.

63. (Amended) The method of claim 62, wherein applying the gate signal to the gate of the transistor comprises:
[reducing the voltage;]
generating the gate signal by applying the reduced voltage to the switching circuit; and
applying the enable signal to the switching circuit to apply the gate signal to the gate of the transistor.

65. (Amended) A method of operating an integrated circuit, comprising:
applying an external voltage to an input of the integrated circuit;
generating a reduced voltage from the external voltage to operate at least one internal circuit of the integrated circuit, wherein generating the reduced voltage includes:
applying the external voltage to a transistor;
reducing the voltage external voltage by a threshold voltage of the transistor; and
providing the reduced voltage at an output of the transistor [by reducing the external voltage by a threshold voltage of the transistor], wherein the output of the transistor is coupled to a well that isolates the transistor from a substrate of the integrated circuit; and
applying the reduced voltage to the at least one internal circuit.

69. (Amended) A method of operating an integrated circuit, comprising:
applying an external voltage to an input of the integrated circuit;
generating a reduced voltage from the external voltage to operate at least one

internal circuit of the integrated circuit, wherein generating the reduced voltage includes:

applying the external voltage to a source/drain and a gate of a transistor;
reducing the external voltage by a threshold voltage of the transistor; and
providing the reduced voltage at a second source/drain of the transistor,

[wherein the reduced voltage is the external voltage reduced by a threshold voltage of the transistor;] and

applying the reduced voltage to the at least one internal circuit.

, 72. (Amended) A method of operating an integrated circuit, comprising:

applying an external voltage to an input of the integrated circuit;
generating a reduced voltage from the external voltage to operate at least one internal circuit of the integrated circuit, wherein generating the reduced voltage includes:

applying the voltage to a first source/drain and a gate of a first transistor, wherein a second source/drain of the first transistor is integrally formed with a first source/drain of a second transistor to form a common source/drain and the common source/drain is coupled to a gate of the second transistor;

reducing the external voltage by a threshold voltage of the transistor by a threshold voltage of both the first transistor and the second transistor; and

providing [a] the reduced voltage at a second source/drain of the second transistor[, wherein the reduced voltage is the external voltage reduced by a threshold voltage of both the first transistor and the second transistor]; and

applying the reduced voltage to the at least one internal circuit.

75. (Amended) A method of operating an integrated circuit, comprising:

applying an external voltage to an input of the integrated circuit;
generating a reduced voltage from the external voltage to operate at least one internal circuit of the integrated circuit, wherein generating the reduced voltage includes:

applying the voltage to a first source/drain and a gate of a first transistor, wherein a second source/drain of the first transistor is coupled to a first source/drain and a gate of